

# **DISTRICT ADVISORY BOARD MINUTES**

## **DISTRICT I**

March 1, 2004

7:00 p.m.

*Atwater Community Center, 2755 E. 19<sup>th</sup>, Wichita, Kansas 67214*

### **Members Present**

Council Member Brewer  
Gerald Domitrovic  
Treatha Brown-Foster  
Lois Tully-Gerber  
Lori Lawrence  
Debra K. Miller  
Debby Moore  
Sharon Myers\*  
James Thompson

### **Members Absent**

Rickie Coleman\*  
Lacey Ganther\*  
Steve Roberts\*  
Celina Porter Robinson  
Ken Woodard

### **Guest List**

(See attached list)

### **Staff Present**

Virdena Gilkey, Neighborhood Assistant  
Lt. Wanda Parker-Givens, WPD  
Capt. Atnip, WPD  
Jay Banasiak, Wichita Transit  
Norman Jakovac, Public Works  
Mike Rudd, Fire Dept.  
Vicki Forbes, Fire Dept.

\*Denotes District Advisory Board Alternates

## **ORDER OF BUSINESS**

### **Call to Order**

**Councilman Brewer** called the meeting to order at 7:03 p.m. and welcomed the guest.

### **Approval of Minutes**

**Brown Foster** referenced page 3 and asked that her wording be corrected to say that they put in an application two years ago for bus shelters and have yet to receive a response. **Thompson (Porter Robinson)** motion to approve DAB I minutes as amended. Motion carried (7-0).

### **Approval of Agenda**

**Moore (Thompson)** made a motion to approve the agenda as submitted. Motion carried unanimously. (7-0).

### **Public Agenda**

Board will hear public issues from individual citizens regarding City issues not scheduled on the agenda.

#### **1. Scheduled items**

**Nina Shaw-Woody, Kansas Children's Service League**, presented information on the Black Adoption Fair and the need for recruitment of minority families for foster and adoptive parenting of African American children.

Ms. Shaw-Woody stated that the Kansas Children's Service League is celebrating 110 years of providing service to children and families. KSCL is the state of Kansas adoption contractor with recruiters divided into four areas (Concordia, Topeka, Hayes, and Eldorado to Great Bend)

On April 3, 2004, 12:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m., KCSL is partnering with the City of Wichita, Family Services, and the KU School of Medicine to host a Black Adoption Fair to create an awareness, in the African American community, of the staggering number of minority children who are in the system and are in need of foster care services and/or adoption. She added that the MAPP classes are filled with other races and there is a need for more minorities.

Ms. Shaw-Woody then compared the number of children that were placed in Out of Home placements in the state of Kansas with the number of students in the Derby School District (over 6,800 children in the system compared to 6000 in the Derby school district). She added that she and her husband have adopted six children and will adopt two more.

*(Ms. Shaw-Woody's response in italics)*

**Brown-Foster** commented the Salvation Army and Wichita Children's Home has foster care and inquired if KSCL is partnering with either of those entities. *Our first focus was adoption and then foster parenting. However, we are using this year as an opportunity to see if it is received in the community. Our plan is to first get the word out and educate and then incorporate other partners on next year.* **Moore** complimented KCSL on their efforts. **Tully-Gerber** inquired about the 6,837 children who are in the system and asked if these are public placements or foster care? *As of January, 1,581 children were on the adoption role.* **Lawrence** thanked Ms. Shaw-Woody for getting this information to the board early. She added that she would get this information out to her neighborhood. Lawrence commented that they have bi-racial couples in their neighborhood and inquired if KCSL is looking at bi-racial families? *Yes we are. There are currently 31 bi-racial children in the system.*

The board received and filed the report.

## **2. Off-agenda items**

**No items submitted**

## **Staff Reports**

### **3. Police Report**

**Captain Atnip** reported that they are currently setting the 2004 adoptive budgets and making sure that they have all the equipment, etc. that they need for Patrol North, Atwater, and Evergreen.

He added that Captain Mosley is putting together a strategic plan for their gang efforts citywide.

The board received and filed.

## **Public Works**

### **4. Fire Station 10**

**Norman Jakovac, Public Works**, presented the design with associated art component for station 10. He introduced Norm Terry, NE Magnet High School Art Department, Kurt Jurgensen, Architect, and Captain Mike Rudd, WFD.

**Kurt Jurgensen, Architect**, described the design of the interior (bunk room, locker room, staffing quarters, offices, storage, etc.). He also showed a picture of the building, which included the art design. **Norman Terry, NE Magnet Art Department**, described the art design and that the designs were the end product of an art project. The art department designed the art for Patrol North and Maya Angelou Library.

*(Staff response in italics)*

**Thompson** asked what is the tentative completion date and the approximate size of the building? *There are 60 days left for the design stage to be approved by the City Council. The previous stations took approximately a year to build. The size will be approximately 9000 square feet.* **Brown-Foster** asked if another building would be demolished due to the lack of perceived land space? *There are currently three parcels of land to use and the plan is to use two parcels, so there is plenty of space to do what has been designed.* **Tully-Gerber** commented that the art design is really impressive and that she thinks it is great that the students were involved. **Miller** asked if there is any particular reason why the chief has to walk through the restroom to get to his office? *Yes, an oncoming person can get to his or her office without walking up.* **Councilmember Brewer** inquired if a fire fighter at Fire Station 10 has looked at this design?

**Kay McKenney, Timbers Apartments**, inquired if there is one fire truck and an ambulance at that station and how far is the fire station from the Timbers at Old Manor and 21<sup>st</sup> Street? *There will be no ambulance at this location. The ambulance is at 21<sup>st</sup> and Shadybrook. The fire station for Timbers is at Farmview and Woodlawn, which is two miles away from the apartment complex.* **Jackie Lugrand, 1136 North Minneapolis**, asked if there would be any discussion on the naming of the fire station? She added that she would like to nominate George W. Robinson, the first African American Fire Captain. *Councilmember Brewer responded, yes, there will be a naming group formed. There is a request for this DAB to provide two members as representatives and two fire fighters will serve as well. The committee will review possible names for the new station and make a recommendation.*

**Moore (Brown Foster)** made a motion that the board accepts the recommendation of Gossen Livingston Associates. Motion carried 7-0.

**Recommended Action: The DAB approved the recommended design.**

## Wichita Transit

### **5. Recertification of Paratransit Eligible Passengers**

**Jay Banasiak, Wichita Transit**, presented the review the recertification plan and the challenges faced via a PowerPoint presentation. He stated that the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) requires the City to provide paratransit van service to persons who, as a result of a physical or cognitive disability, are unable to independently access or use fixed route transit. He commented that in the past, those with functional disabilities were not dealt with and we are now faced with issues of eligibility.

Mr. Banasiak reviewed that on the national scale, many cities have undertaken recertification of ADA paratransit eligible persons using the eligibility criteria outlined in The ADA. Those recertification efforts involve the use of 1) in-person interviews and physical and cognitive functional assessments, 2) elimination of professional verification, and 3) use of third-party contractors to perform various tasks of the recertification process.

In 2003, the Mobility Advisory Task Force (MATF) was developed to make recommendations for recertification. Those recommendations includes 1) in-person interviews; 2) functional assessment conducted by third-party; 3) eliminate self-certification; 4) environmental barrier analysis conducted by WT staff; 5) draft eligibility application; 6) use new eligibility application developed by WT staff; 7) discontinue consultant services; 8) provide formal travel-training; and 9) provide sensitivity and disability awareness training.

*(Jay Banasiak's response in italics)*

Citizens asked the following questions and comments were made: 1) will automobiles be available for persons who are ambulatory? *We will look at that. Currently, our present staff is the best in the state of Kansas. They provide medical vans for those in need of in-home care. Topeka has said that Wichita, Kansas is very unique and to be commended;* 2) how much will Timber wheelchair residents have to pay to ride the City bus? *Paid waivers and WT are totally different entities. We are talking about an incentive program;* 3) you have 300 new buses, do they all have lifts? *Yes, lifts or ramps. Most buses have the same lift as the van;* 4) distance eats up our power. Will we be able to ride buses and/or vans, if not close to our destination? *If further than two to three blocks, you will use our van service. Also, weather is a factor if it is too hot or too cold;* 5) glad you mentioned sensitivity training, because more than a few bus drivers have told me to use the van service so as not to make them late; 6) will there be rides for Sunday church services? *We are not there yet. We have not received a whole lot of requests for this service yet;* 7) will you extend services at least until 10:00 p.m.? *The demand is not there to go later. However, marketing and research is looking at this issue;* 8) can you make future public hearings more convenient? *Yes;* 9) are the wheelchairs tied down on buses? *Yes, it is similar to what happens on vans. You would be strapped in just like on vans;* 10) when will you start? *We hope to go to the City Council in April, which means we are looking at the summer at best.*

The board asked the following questions and comments were made: 1) when do the in-person interview take place and will they be on-site? *The exact interview dates have not been established. If not on-site, we will pay for the interviewees to get to their interviews and back home;* 2) how often do they have to recertify? *There are instances where recertification would be every three years and instances where it would be every year;* 3) Lord's Diner customers would have to choose between riding and eating. *We are looking*

*at this to see if we can provide a service; 4) do buses still drop people off on corners and at the malls? Yes, we are working with them on this; 5) you said you were to recertify everyone. Where will you get all of these people? The Physical Rehabilitation of Kansas would be able to assist in this area; 6) later hours have been requested for sometime now. How do you plan to address that need, especially for single parents? We plan to hire a consultant to look at this; 7) vehicle locators have been used by several medical centers. Have you used them? KETCH and Starkey use these devices to assist us; 8) do buses still drop people off on corners and at the malls? Yes. We are working with them on this; 9) In reference to sensitivity training, please do not forget to include training for the deaf riders. Now that we have cameras, we analyze situations with the drivers. We will do more of that type of training with the drivers; 10) what do the bus shelters look like? Around 10 to 12 feet long, 4 feet deep, bubble top, ADA accessible for wheelchairs and benches (optional). A RFP will go out this week on the shelters; 11) is the paratransit van service similar to the current van service and is it complimentary? It is curb to curb service with the passenger expected to be that the curb when designated. The riders will still pay for the service. The question is whether they will be eligible or not; 12) you may pick up four people after someone calls for a ride. How is this handled in inclement weather? Typically they wait by their door. The curb is in front of their house and the driver waits approximately five minutes before they leave. This allows time for the rider to get to the curb; 13) since there are a large number of people attending this meeting from the Timbers complex, can we notify them of the City Council meeting? We will do that.*

**Thompson (Brown Foster)** made a motion to approve the recertification plan as presented. Motion carried 7-0.

**Recommended Action: The District Advisory Board approved the recertification plan as presented.**

### **Unfinished Business**

No items submitted

### **New Business**

No items submitted

### **Board Agenda**

#### **6. Updates, Issues, and Reports**

- 1) **Councilmember Brewer** reported the following: a) District 1 Coalition Breakfast, March 6<sup>th</sup> will be hosted by County Commissioner Carolyn McGinn as he will be in Washington attending the National League of Cities Conference. At this conference, economic development, funding for the Readiness Center, housing, homeless shelters, etc. will be addressed; b) Next DAB meeting is Monday, April 6<sup>th</sup>; c) March 11<sup>th</sup> is the ground breaking ceremony for the new 21<sup>st</sup> Street shopping center.
- 2) **Lois Tully-Gerber** reported that the Fireworks Taskforce met on February 17<sup>th</sup> and the meeting was a little explosive with so many diverse opinions expressed. It has been considered that this comes to a vote in the August primary on a non-ballot referendum. The committee has discussed doing a telephone survey on the matter.

The taskforce will meet again and Lt. Gary Tabor is to provide input. Also, the new House Bill 2888 is a proposed change to fireworks in Kansas where no one under 16 years old would be allowed to purchase fireworks.

**Debbie Moore** commented that she had heard that for a complaint to be made, the Police would have to see an active discharge. **Tully-Gerber** responded that that is true and the fireworks would have to be seen in the person's possession. Last year, quite a few citations were written.

**Councilmember Brewer** stated that he serves on the Jail Committee and the consensus is that Municipal Court and WPD incarcerate too many people and should not issue warrants, but give another fine.

The board received and filed.

**Recommended Action: The board received and filed.**

Being no further business, **Brown-Foster (Domitrovic)** made a motion to adjourn. Motion carried 7-0.

The meeting adjourned at 8:53 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted By,

Virgena Gilkey  
Neighborhood Assistant

### **Guest List**

- 1) Anita L. Frost, 2911 Gouverneur #212
- 2) Glen Dey, 4515 Greenbriar
- 3) Genny Prast, 644 North Crestway
- 4) Norm Terry, 1847 N. Chautauqua
- 5) Kurt Jurgensen, 420 South Emporia
- 6) Ryan T. Crop, 420 South Emporia
- 7) Nina Shaw-Woody, Kansas Children's Service League (KCSL)
- 8) Carl Ligon, 1736 NE Parkway
- 9) Larry Hopp, Timbers Apartment
- 10) Renny Summer, Timbers Apartment
- 11) Jerri, Timbers Apartment
- 12) Shari Rose, Timbers Apartment
- 13) Tom, Timbers Apartment
- 14) Helen, Timbers Apartment
- 15) Darian Christmore, Timbers Apartment
- 16) Kay McKenney, Timbers Apartment
- 17) Leroy Hill, Timbers Apartment
- 18) Jim Bosth, Timbers Apartment
- 19) Mike Morris, Timbers Apartment
- 20) Steve Fogo, Timbers Apartment
- 21) Jo Ellen Walker, Timbers Apartment

- 22) Joel Goertz, Timbers Apartment
- 23) Moses Tittle, Timbers Apartment
- 24) Tina Griffin, Timbers Apartment
- 25) Pat Disberger, Timbers Apartment
- 26) Erlena Benning, Timbers Apartment
- 27) Ray Hinriches, Timbers Apartment
- 28) George Hackett, Timbers Apartment
- 29) Beth Sneed, Timbers Apartment
- 30) Betty Miller, Timbers Apartment
- 31) Cheryl Adams, Timbers Apartment
- 32) Mike Eastman, Timbers Apartment
- 33) Tom Heeran, Timbers Apartment
- 34) Holly Czarnechi, Timbers Apartment
- 35) Jeff Benning, Timbers Apartment
- 36) Ron Mitchell, Timbers Apartment
- 37) Steve Dyer, Timbers Apartment
- 38) Sheryl Burnette, Timbers Apartment
- 39) Ray Hinricks, Timbers Apartment